| *Name of State* | *No. of units set up* | |
|---|---|---|
| | *1990* | *1991* |
| *1* | *2* | *3* |
| Punjab | 2 | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 3 | — |
| West Bengal | 1 | 1 |

**Action against Hoarding and Black-marketing**

4950. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any drive against hoarders and blackmarketeers of essential commodities especially desi ghee and butter;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the price of butter and ghee of common brand on January, 1991; and

(d) steps the Government propose to take to see that butter and ghee prices do not increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). The Central Government have advised the State Governments and U.T. Administrations to intensify their vigilance and enforcement activities for firm action against hoarders and blacmarketeers of all essential commodities. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated suitable powers envisaged under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Desi ghee and Butter prices are not fixed by Government.

The State Government and UT Administrations take action on a regular basis to check hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities. No separate statistics regarding action taken by them in respect of Butter, ghee etc. are maintained by this Ministry.

The Wholesale Price Indices of Butter and Ghee in January, 1991 were 225.8 and 194.4 respectively.

Ghee and Butter Prices are determined by market forces of demand and supply etc.

**Seniority of Employees sent under Indian Technical and Economic Co-operation Programme (ITEC)**

4951. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the applications of the employees of various Public Sector Undertakings and the organisations, State Government Departments etc. forwarded through proper channel by the Department concerned for foreign assignments are registered by the department of Personnel only when such

applications are accompanied with a certificate from the employer for protection of seniority of the employees on their selection;

(b) if so, whether there have been any cases where the seniority, pay an promotion of the candidates belonging to various organisations selected under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) during the years 1985-88 were not protected; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The applications of the employees of various public sector undertakings, forwarded through proper channel are registererd. Although the relevant guidelines advise the employers to protect the lien and seniority of the employees released for foreign assignments, it has not been made obligatory for the employers to furnish certificates to that effect.

(b) According to the available record, there is one case where the seniority of an officer deputed under the ITEC assignment was not protected by his employer..

(c) The case relates to Shri Sudhir Kumar of BHEL. He has filed a Civil Suit in the Delhi High Court, which is being defended. The case is sub-judice.

**Reserve Stock of Foodgrains**

4952. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the reserve stock of foodgrains available with the Government;

(b) whether the foodgrains are supplied to draught hit areas to the weaker sections and Adivasis from the stock available;

(c) if so, the quantity thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The foodgrains (rice and wheat) stocks in the Central Pool were of the order of 18.12 million tonnes as on 1st August, 1991.

(b), (c) and (d). The allocations of foodgrains to the various States/ UTs from the Central Pool for Public Distribution System are meant for the State as a whole. The distribution in different areas within the State is the concern of the State Government. however, 18.60 lakh tonnes (Provisional) of foodgrains (rice and wheat) were distributed a specially subsidized prices to Integral Tribal development Project areas etc. during 1990-91. These quantities were distributed out of the allocations are made to the States/UTs for weaker sections.

**Adulteration in Cement**

4953. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some arrests for adulterating cement have been made during 1990 and upto July, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Union-Territory-wise;

(c) whether incidents of adulteration of cement bags are on the increase;

(d) whether the Government propose to change the containers of cement; and